ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Even when an assignment request of storage areas exceeding unassigned areas is issued from a server, storage areas can be assigned to the server, so that storage areas in a storage pool can be utilized effectively. A management server connected to a plurality of servers and storage apparatuses to manage physical storage areas of the storage apparatuses used by the plurality of servers as virtual areas (storage pool) is responsive to an area assignment instruction of storage areas exceeding unassigned areas received from a server to release at least part of assignment areas of other servers to be assigned to the server which issued the area assignment instruction.